IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 31 line 17 through page 32 line 12 (the paragraph straddling pages 31 and 32): please

replace this paragraph with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 14 is data structure illustrating an example of a pile **140** in a loosely sorted

tree-like data structure, with properties that are highly beneficial to the scheduling and

arbitration of events. For networking and computing applications, piles can be used to

quickly sort a set of queues or events to determine in what order they must be serviced.

A pile node **150** in FIG. 15 in the pile contains a sort index **151**, and a data block **152**.

For scheduling and arbitration purposes, queues of events are assigned an index and a

unique identifier (called a "queue identifier"). The index is related in some way to the

priority or relative order in which the various queues are to be serviced. Together, the

index and queue identifier represent the event at the head of the event queue. The index

and identifier (the event) are placed in the sort index field ~~210~~ 151 and data block field

~~220~~ 152 respectively of a node at the root of the pile, and through a sequence of

swapping operations, the node percolates down through the levels of the pile to a level

consistent with the priority or relative order of the event with respect to the other events

in the pile. Through this sorting action the root node or node group of the pile is ensured

to hold the highest priority event. When an index and queue identifier (an event) are

removed from the pile at the root node, the empty node left by the removal percolates

down the levels of the pile in the same manner as a newly inserted event. Herein an

empty node is called a "hole." This pile sort algorithm allows events to be scheduled

quickly and efficiently.